

MECE 3350U  
Control Systems

Lecture 18  
Nyquist Stability Criterion

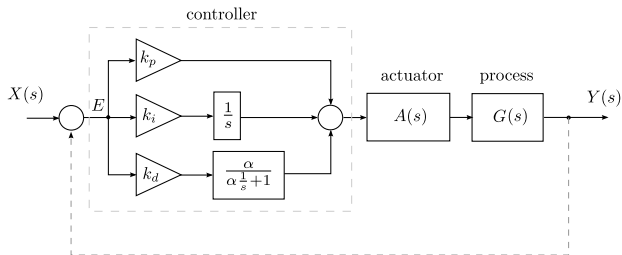
## Outline of Lecture 18

By the end of today's lecture you should be able to

- Extend the concept of gain and phase
- Understand the Nyquist stability criterion
- Determine the stability based on open loop transfer function

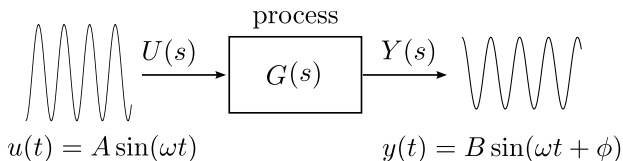
## Applications

Knowing the open-loop transfer function of the system below, how can we evaluate its stability without computing the closed-loop transfer function?



## Gain and phase - review

Any system can be characterized by its frequency response to a sinusoidal excitation.



The ratio  $B/A$  is called the gain of  $G(s)$  for given frequency.

The phase shift  $\phi$  is the phase of  $G(s)$  for a given frequency.

Data can be obtained experimentally if  $G(s)$  is unknown.

## Gain and phase - review

For a generic transfer function  $G(s)$

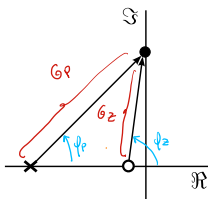
$$G(s) = k \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n (s + z_i)}{\prod_{k=1}^m (s + p_k)}$$

we can evaluate the **gain** at a frequency  $\omega$  by letting  $s = j\omega$ .

The gain is

$$G(j\omega) = |k| \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n |j\omega + z_i|}{\prod_{k=1}^m |j\omega + p_k|}$$

where  $|j\omega \pm a| = \sqrt{\omega^2 + (\pm a)^2}$



$$G = \frac{G_z}{G_p}$$

$$\phi = \phi_z - \phi_p$$

## Gain and phase - review

For a generic transfer function  $G(s)$

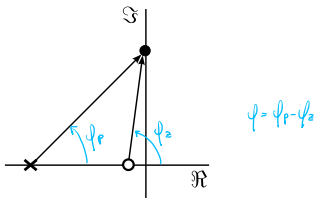
$$G(s) = k \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n (s + z_i)}{\prod_{k=1}^m (s + p_k)}$$

we can evaluate the **phase** at a frequency  $\omega$  by letting  $s = j\omega$ .

The phase is

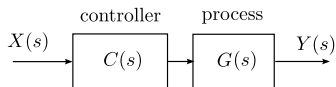
$$\angle G(j\omega) = \angle |k| + \sum_{i=1}^n \angle(j\omega + z_i) - \sum_{k=1}^m \angle(j\omega + p_k)$$

where  $\angle(j\omega + a) = \tan^{-1} \omega/a$

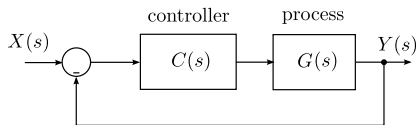


## Open loop vs closed loop stability

Generally the process and controller transfer functions are known



The open loop transfer function is  $L(s) = C(s)G(s)$ .



Closing the loop changes the transfer function to

$$T(s) = \frac{C(s)G(s)}{1 + C(s)G(s)} = \frac{L(s)}{1 + L(s)}$$

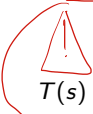
## Open loop vs closed loop stability

### Open-loop stability

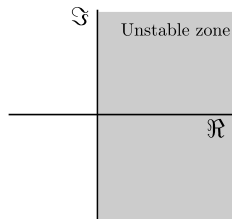
$$T(s) = C(s)G(s)$$

→ Evaluate the location of the **poles** of  $C(s)G(s)$

### Closed-loop stability


$$T(s) = \frac{C(s)G(s)}{1 + C(s)G(s)}$$


→ Evaluate the location of the **zeros** of  $1 + C(s)G(s)$



Example: If  $C(s)G(s) = \frac{s+a}{s+b}$

→ Open-loop stable if  $C(s)G(s)$  has real negative **poles**: i.e.,  $b > 0$

→ Closed-loop stable if  $1 + C(s)G(s)$  has real negative **zeros**:

$$T(s) = \frac{\frac{s+a}{s+b}}{1 + \frac{s+a}{s+b}} = \frac{\frac{s+a}{s+b}}{\frac{(s+b)+(s+a)}{s+b}}$$




## Open loop vs closed loop stability

The open loop transfer function

$$C(s)G(s) = \frac{s + a}{s + b} \quad (2)$$

has a zero at  $-a$  and pole at  $-b$ .

The characteristic equation of the closed-loop transfer function in a unit feedback system becomes

$$1 + C(s)G(s) = 1 + \frac{s + a}{s + b} = \frac{s + a + s + b}{s + b} \quad (3)$$

and has a pole at  $-b$ .

The pole is (3) the same as in (2) !

For close-loop stability, the **zeros** of the characteristic equation, i.e. the zeros of  $1 + C(s)G(s)$ , must have negative real parts.

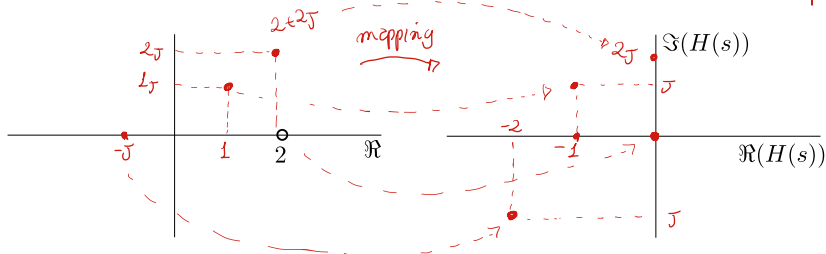
## Function mapping

Consider the hypothetical function

$$H(s) = s - 2$$

How can we determine the location of the zeros of  $H(s)$  graphically?

*w-plane*



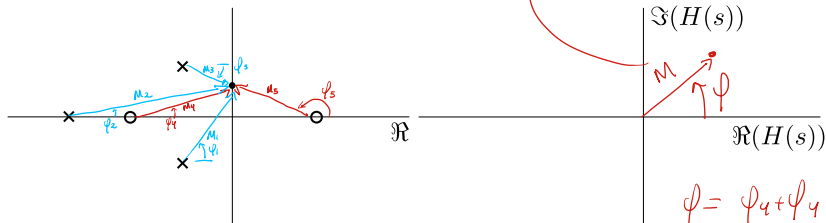
We can map any point from the  $s$ -plane into the " $w$ " plane:

$$\rightarrow s = 2 + 2j \text{ becomes } H(2 + 2j) = 2j$$

$$\rightarrow s = 1 + j \text{ becomes } H(1 + j) = -1 + j$$

$$\rightarrow s = -j \text{ becomes } H(-j) = -2 - j$$

# Cauchy's argument principle

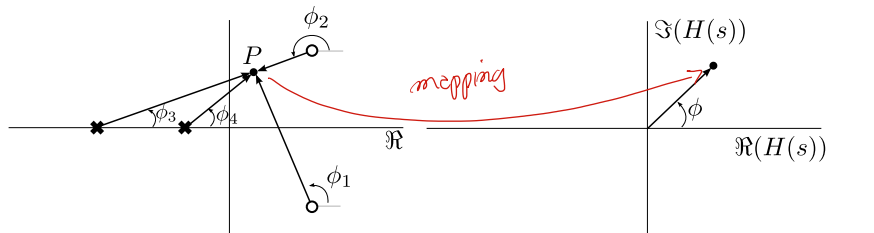


$$M = \frac{M_4 M_5}{M_1 M_2 M_3}$$

$$\phi = \phi_4 + \phi_5 - \phi_1 - \phi_2 - \phi_3$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(s) &= |H(s)| \angle H(s) \\
 &= |k| \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n |s + z_i|}{\prod_{k=1}^m |s + p_k|} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \angle(s + z_i) - \sum_{k=1}^m \angle(s + p_k) \right) \\
 &= |H(s)| \left( \sum \phi_i - \sum \phi_k \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Cauchy's argument principle



- 1 - Select a point  $P$  in the  $s$ -plane
- 2 - Draw the vectors from  $P$  to each zero and pole
- 3 - Calculate the magnitude of each vector
- 4 - The magnitude is the product of magnitude of zeros divided by the product of the magnitude of poles
- 5 - The angle is

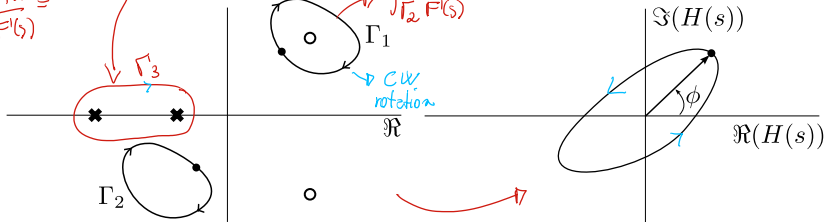
$$\phi = \phi_1 + \phi_2 - \phi_3 - \phi_4$$

Cauchy's argument principle  $\rightarrow \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{F(s)}{F'(s)} ds = 2\pi i (Z - P)$

$$\oint_{\Gamma_3} \frac{F(s)}{F'(s)} ds = 2\pi i (2)$$

$$\oint_{\Gamma_2} \frac{F(s)}{F'(s)} ds = 2\pi i (1 - 0)$$

$$\oint_{\Gamma_2} \frac{F(s)}{F'(s)} ds = 0$$



the corresponding contours in the  $w$ -plane will encircle the origin

$$Z - P$$

times.

$Z \rightarrow \#$  of zeros in the contour  
 $P \rightarrow \#$  of poles in the closed integral

As  $s$  traverses  $\Gamma_2$ , the net angle change of  $\phi$  is  $0$

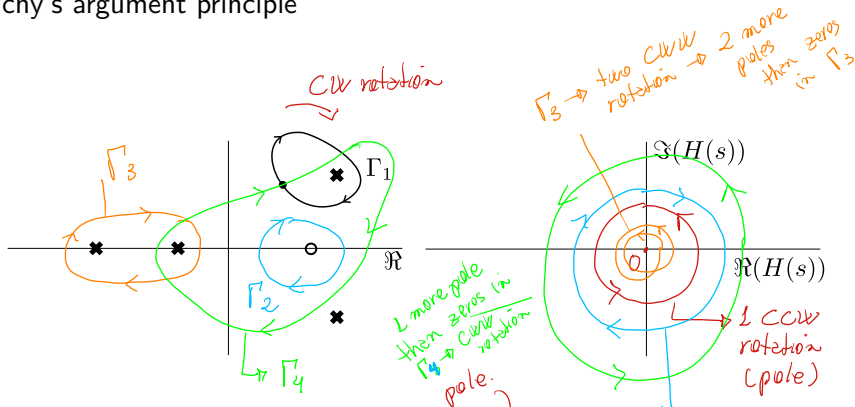
As  $s$  traverses  $\Gamma_1$ , the net angle change of  $|\phi|$  is  $\pm 360^\circ$

$$\Gamma_3 \rightarrow -2 \times 360^\circ = -720^\circ$$

DEMONSTRATION:

See Matlab code posted on BB

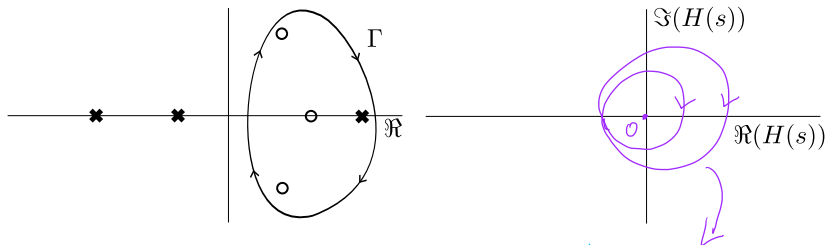
# Cauchy's argument principle



As  $s$  traverses  $\Gamma_1$ , the net angle change of  $\phi$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_2 &\Rightarrow +360^\circ \\ \Gamma_3 &\Rightarrow -720^\circ \\ \Gamma_4 &\Rightarrow -360^\circ \end{aligned}$$

# Cauchy's argument principle



As  $s$  traverses  $\Gamma_1$ , the net angle change of  $\phi$  is

two encirclements of the origin, thus there are two MORE zeros than poles within the contour defined by  $\Gamma$

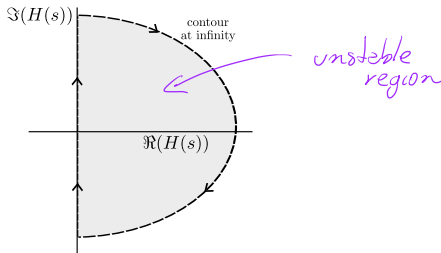
## Cauchy's argument principle

Assume that the characteristic equation of  $1 + C(s)G(s)$  has:

→ A number  $P$  of **poles** in the right-half plane.

→ A number  $N$  of **zeros** in the right-half plane.

For an contour that encircles the entire right-half plane:



The relation between  $P$ ,  $Z$ , and the **net** number  $N$  of clockwise encirclements of the origin is:

$$N = Z - P$$

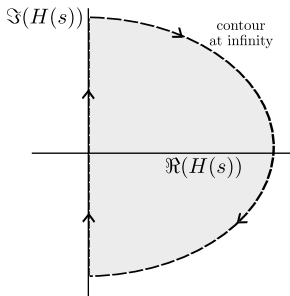


## Cauchy's argument principle

A contour map of a complex function will encircle the origin

$$N = Z - P$$

times, where  $Z$  is the number of zeros and  $P$  is the number of poles of the function inside the contour.



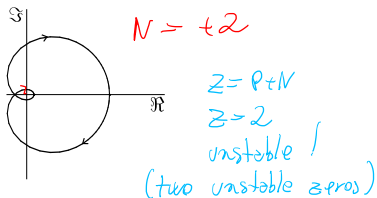
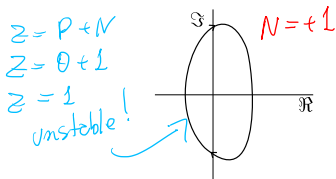
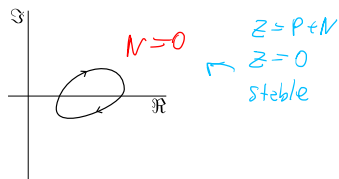
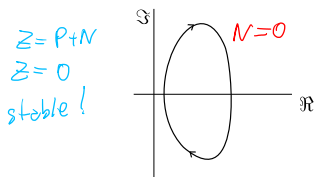
for stability  
 $Z=0$

The number of unstable poles are known: They are the same as in the open-loop transfer function!

## Nyquist plot

Assuming that there are no poles in the right-half plane, are the following systems stable?

$$1 + C(s)G(s) = 0$$

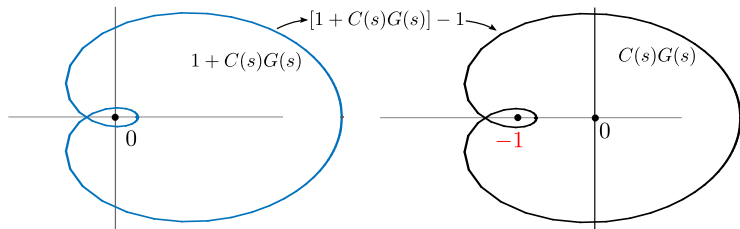


## Nyquist plot

$$1 + C(s)G(s) = 0. \quad (4)$$

If there is a zero or pole of (4) in the right-half s-plane, the contour of (4) encircles the origin.

Subtracting 1 from the above equation shifts the contour to the left



Thus, if the **open-loop** equation

$$T(s) = C(s)G(s)$$

*open loop transfer function*



(5)

has a zero or pole in the right-half s-plane, the contour of (5) encircles -1.

## The Nyquist Stability Criterion

An **open-loop** transfer function  $L(s)$  has  $Z$  unstable **closed-loop** roots given by

$$Z = N + P$$

*stability requires  
 $N=0$*

where

→  $N$  is the number of clockwise encirclements of  $-1$

→  $P$  is the number of poles in the right-half  $s$ -plane

Note: If encirclements are in the counterclockwise direction,  $N$  is negative.

For stability, we wish to have  $Z = 0$ .

## The Nyquist Stability Criterion



A open-loop transfer function  $L(s)$  is closed-loop stable if and only if:

The number of counterclockwise encirclements of the  $-1 + 0j$  point is equal to the number of poles of  $L(s)$  with positive real parts.

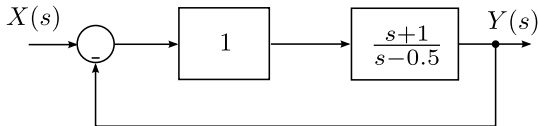


$$Z = N + P$$

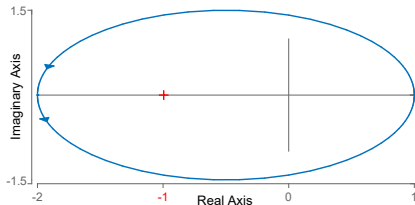


## Example 1

Is this closed-loop system stable?



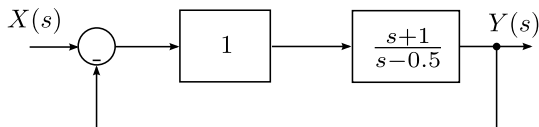
The Nyquist plot of the **open-loop** transfer function  $L(s) = \frac{s+1}{s-0.5}$  is



$$P = 1 \quad , \quad N = -1 \quad , \quad Z = N + P = -1 + 1 = 0 \rightarrow \text{stable!}$$

*(s=0.5)      CCW*

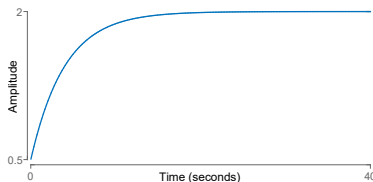
## Example 1 - continued



The closed-loop transfer function is

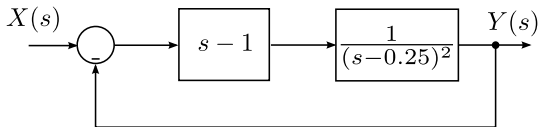
$$T(s) = \frac{\frac{s+1}{s-0.5}}{1 + \frac{s+1}{s-0.5}} = \frac{s+1}{2s+0.5}$$

Step response

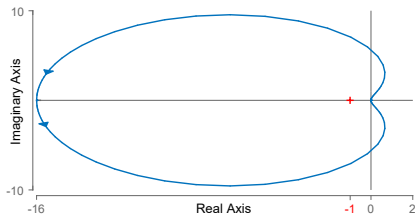


## Example 2

Is this closed-loop system stable?



The Nyquist plot of the **open-loop** transfer function  $L(s) = \frac{s-1}{(s-0.25)^2}$  is

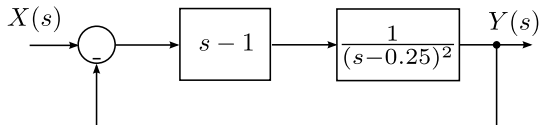


$$P = 2, N = -1, Z = N + P = -1 + 2 = 1 \text{ unstable!}$$

$(s=0.25)$   
 $s=0.25$



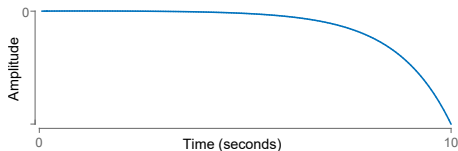
## Example 2 - continued



The closed-loop transfer function is

$$T(s) = \frac{\frac{s-1}{s^2-0.5s+0.0625}}{1 + \frac{s-1}{s^2-0.5s+0.0625}} = \frac{s-1}{s^2+0.5s-0.9375}$$

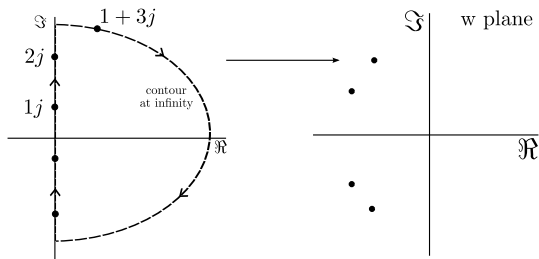
The poles are:  $-1.25$  and  $0.75$  and the step response is



$1 + L(s)$  has ONE unstable zero.

# Nyquist plot

How to create the Nyquist plot for a given function?

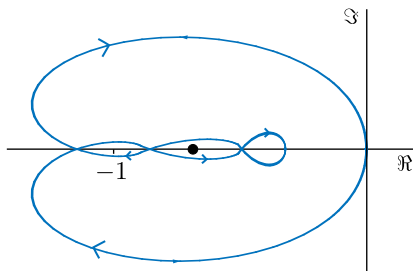


Next class!

## Exercise 105

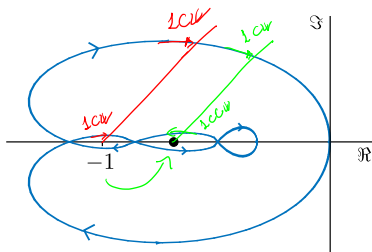
The Nyquist plot of a conditionally stable open loop system is shown in the figure.

$$\hookrightarrow P=0$$



- (a) Determine whether the closed-loop system is stable
- (b) Determine whether the closed-loop system is stable if the  $-1$  point lies at the dot on the axis.

# Exercise 105 - continued



(a)

$$N = 2$$

$$P = 0$$

$$Z = P + N$$

$$\boxed{Z = 2}$$

unstable!

1CW  
 ↙ -1CW rotation

(b)

$$N = 0$$

$$P = 0$$

$$Z = P + N$$

$$\boxed{Z = 0}$$

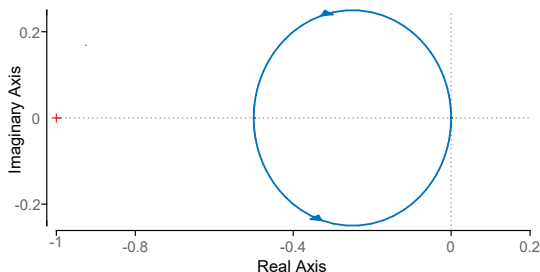
stable!

## Exercise 106

A unit feedback system has a loop transfer function

$$L(s) = C(s)G(s) = \frac{k}{\tau s - 1}$$

where  $k = 0.5$  and  $\tau = 1$ . Based on its Nyquist plot show below, determine whether the system is stable.



## Exercise 106 - continued

$$L(s) = C(s)G(s) = \frac{0.5}{s-1}$$

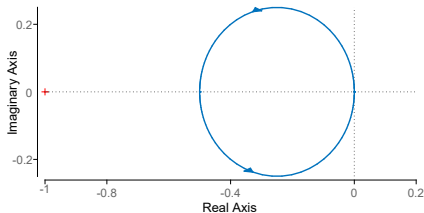
$$P=1$$

$$N=0 \quad (\text{no encirclements})$$

$$Z = P + N$$

$$Z=1$$

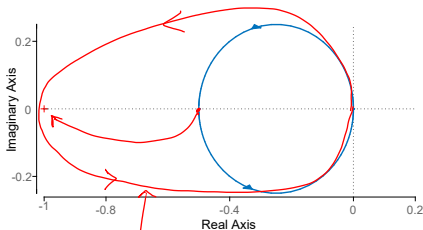
↳ 1 unstable closed-loop pole!



## Exercise 106 - continued

What value of  $k$  is required for stability?

$$L(s) = C(s)G(s) = \frac{k}{s-1}$$



Need to multiply the loop by 2  
or  $k=1$

$$N = -1 \quad (\text{curve})$$

$$Z = P + N$$

$$Z = 1 - 1 = 0 \quad \text{stable}$$

$$\text{proof} \Rightarrow 1 + \frac{k}{s-1} = 0$$

$$s-1+k=0$$

$$-1+k > 0$$

if  $k > 1$  (stable)

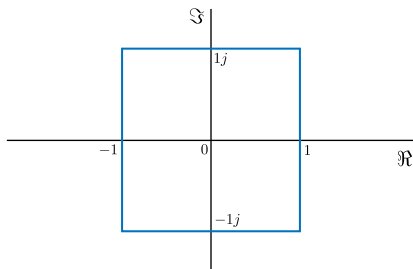
## Exercise 107

A loop transfer function is

*home work*

$$L(s) = \frac{1}{s+2}$$

Using the contour in the s-plane shown, determine the corresponding contour in the  $F(s)$  (or "w") plane.

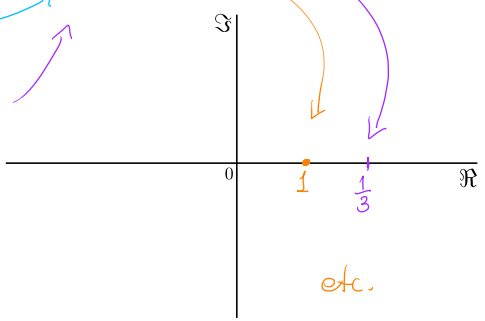
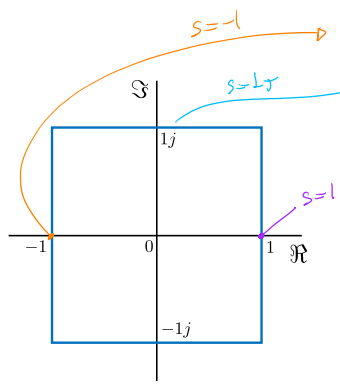




# Exercise 107 - continued

$$\frac{1}{s+2} \times \frac{s-2}{s-2}$$

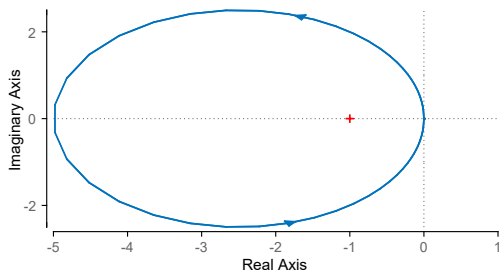
$$L(s) = \frac{1}{s+2}$$



## Exercise 108

Based on the Nyquist plot, evaluate the stability of

$$T(s) = \frac{s}{(s - 0.1)^2}$$



$$P = +2$$

$$N = -1$$

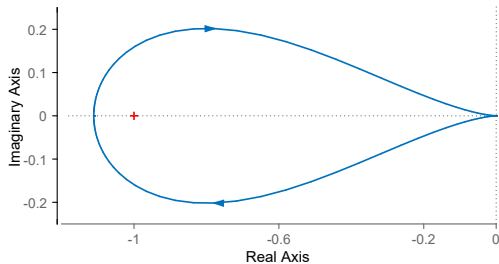
$$Z = P + N = 1$$

unstable!

## Exercise 109

Based on the Nyquist plot, evaluate the stability of

$$T(s) = \frac{50}{(s+5)(s-9)}$$



$$P = 1$$
$$N = 1 \text{ (ccw)}$$

$$Z = P + N = 2$$

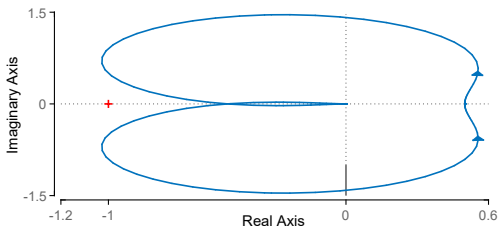
unstable!

## Exercise 110

Based on the Nyquist plot, evaluate the stability of

$$T(s) = \frac{s + 0.5}{s^3 + s^2 + 1}$$

poles are  
 $-1.46, 0.23 \pm 0.79i$   
(2 unstable poles)



$$P = 2$$

$$N = 0$$

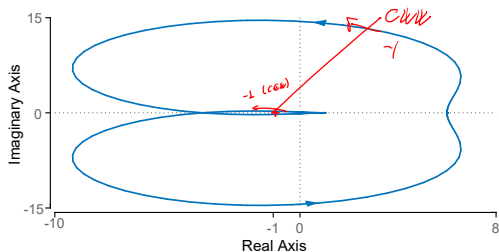
$$Z = 2 + 0 = 2$$

unstable!

## Exercise 111

Based on the Nyquist plot, evaluate the stability of

$$T(s) = 10 \frac{s + 0.5}{s^3 + s^2 + 1}$$



$$P = 2$$

$$N = -2$$

(2 clockwise  
encirc.)

$$Z = 0$$

stable.

yay!

## Next class...

- Nyquist plot